

Amendments to the Specification

Insert the following paragraph at page 1, line 2.

Related Applications

This application is a National Stage of International Application No. PCT/CA2003/001778, filed November 21, 2003, which claims the benefit of USSN 60/428,100, filed November 21, 2002, USSN 60/428,562, filed November 22, 2002, USSN 60/430,590, filed December 3, 2002, and USSN 60/519,933, filed November 14, 2003. Priority is claimed to all of these referenced applications. The contents of all of these applications are incorporated by reference in their entireties.

Insert the following paragraph on a new page following page 44.

Abstract

The present invention concerns six novel variants of alternative splicing of the CD40 receptor.